



Association of Breast Surgery  
at The Royal College of Surgeons of England  
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[www.associationofbreastsurgery.org.uk](http://www.associationofbreastsurgery.org.uk)

30<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Hi All

As the new Nursing Trustee, it is an honour for me to have an opportunity to represent nurses within the Association of Breast Surgery.

I thought it might be a good idea to send out a letter to update all the nurse members of ABS at the beginning of my time as Nursing Trustee.

By 'update' I suppose that I mean a general recap on what is already happening within ABS with particular reference to nurse involvement and then to put out there some of the ideas/plans we have moving forward.

I would like to introduce you to the nurses currently involved in ABS within the separate committees that meet and on the advisory board who provide the nurse input for ABS.

Currently the nurses involved are:

Ann Pearson – CNS Glasgow - member of the Education and Training Committee  
Simerjit Rai – Surgical Care Practitioner Birmingham – Breast Nurse Advisory Board member  
Victoria Harmer – Consultant Breast Nurse London – Breast Nurse Advisory Board member  
Nicola Stubbs – CNS Manchester – Breast Nurse Advisory Board member  
Sue Holcombe – Breast ANP Liverpool – Nursing Trustee.

We make up the current nursing contribution and representation on some of the ABS committees.

There are currently vacancies for nurse representation on two of the committees – 2 nurse vacancies for Academic and Research committee and 1 vacancies on the education and training committee. Please have a look at the Nursing Section of the website if you interested in applying for any of these posts or being more involved in the work of the ABS.

I would like to be able to arrange, and if necessary support, regional meetings for nurses involved in Breast Nursing and understand that some areas have healthy, well represented regional meetings. However some areas have not managed to get their nurses together recently due perhaps to time and cost pressures. I will contact the regional reps from ABS as soon as I can to see what the situation is with this and hope to be able to get regional meetings off the ground.

This is only likely to represent one or two meetings over and above the ones already in the diary – such as ABS Conference and MDT meeting organised by ABS. However with the ever increasing need to have good teaching for revalidation purposes I feel that if ABS can help us with this it will benefit each other and our patients.

I also would like to know if there is anyone out there who is online savvy and would like to get involved in this part of ABS nursing? Although I would not consider myself to be a total dinosaur I would certainly not want or be able to take a lead in this area. So please – let me know if you would like to be involved.

With reference to education and training, are there any topics that you feel we have not covered or are not covered anywhere else that we might be able to explore and develop? Again please let me know your ideas.

Please remember that there is a business meeting for nurses at the ABS Conference. This year we have the offer of a wine reception and to hold our meeting as an early evening event. This type of event allows us to network, share our practice and be encouraged by each other as well as be involved in future projects and developing practice for the benefit of our patients. Please consider coming to this part of the meeting.

I look forward to hearing from you and working together over the next twelve months.

Kind regards

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. M. Holcombe".

Sue Holcombe  
Nursing Trustee

Please contact me via the ABS office at [lucydavies@absghi.org.uk](mailto:lucydavies@absghi.org.uk)